



Message from Secretary-General, UNCTAD

In the early 1980s, a group of developing countries came together in UNCTAD to challenge the apparently endless renewal cycles for the Multi-Fibre Arrangement. This group subsequently became institutionalized as the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau, which in the years since has been instrumental in bringing the sector under the normal rules and disciplines of the WTO.



The textiles and clothing sector plays a vital role in the economies of many developing countries and LDCs. It is a major source of foreign exchange earnings and employment and offers opportunities to diversify away from reliance

on traditional commodity exports and pursue entry into the manufacturing sector. Its economic performance also has important implications for socio-economic issues, such as the equitable distribution of income, the employment of women, the development of small- and medium-sized enterprises, and poverty alleviation. Beyond these national-level benefits, the textiles and clothing sector has also been involved in promoting South-South cooperation.

Nevertheless, developing countries and LDCs still face significant difficulties in exporting their textile and clothing products and hence may fail to fully realize the sector's potential benefits. Among the hurdles they face are tariff peaks and escalation, numerous and complex non-tariff barriers, and demanding requirements from importing countries to meet social and labour standards. Assistance to these countries is increasingly necessary due to rapidly changing market requirements and the challenges arising from such policy shifts as the ATC expiry and the anticipated erosion of preferences under NAMA.

I expect that the reliable and timely information contained in this ITCB newsletter will be highly useful to policymakers and business leaders in these countries and their partners.

Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi
Secretary-General, UNCTAD

Message from Director-General, WTO

Since its founding in 1984, the International Textiles and Clothing Bureau has played a vital role in the evolution of the textile and clothing sector by providing support to its Members in securing responsiveness of the sector to economic growth in developing countries. As the only international organization devoted exclusively to the interests of developing countries in this sector, the ITCB is dedicated to harnessing the GATT/WTO rules and disciplines in the pursuit of fair and open markets for textiles and clothing exports. The ITCB has worked side-by-side with the GATT/WTO in promoting dialogue, sharing information and facilitating the consultation process among WTO Members.



The 2005 expiration of the WTO Agreement on Textiles and Clothing opens new market opportunities. Today, textiles and clothing account for 4.2 per cent of world merchandise exports, increasing to US\$583 billion. Developing countries, comprising over two-thirds of world clothing exports and more than one-half of world textiles exports, must ensure that their policies and strategies are poised to seize emerging opportunities. This newsletter will enhance the ITCB's role as the source of up-to-date analysis and news on the textiles and clothing sector, providing the public and private sectors with the information they can rely upon in their policy-making process.

Pascal Lamy
Director-General, WTO

Message from Chairman, ITCB Council

Dear Readers,

With this, the inaugural issue of "Threads", ITCB adds a new dimension to its activities.

Created as an intergovernmental organisation by developing countries exporting textiles and clothing to advance their interests in the sector, ITCB serves as a common platform for members to consult and share information, and to discuss, coordinate, and articulate

Did You Know?

Of total U.S. import duties of some \$26 billion (2007), \$10.4 billion came from textiles and clothing. Looked differently, the sector made up for only 5% of all U.S. imports, but 40% of import duties.

China; Hong Kong, China; Italy; Germany; Turkey; India; France; USA; Belgium; Republic of Korea; Chinese Taipei; United Kingdom; Pakistan; Spain and Netherlands were the top 15 exporters of textiles and clothing in 2007, making up for \$436 billion or 78% of world exports.

Of EU's 2008 sector imports of \$9.0 billion from 50 least-developed countries, Bangladesh, Cambodia and Madagascar made up for 94% (\$7.4, \$0.8 and \$0.3 billion respectively).

Of U.S. 2008 sector imports of \$7.1 billion from 50 LDCs, Bangladesh, Cambodia and Haiti made up for 90% (\$3.6, \$2.4 and \$0.4 billion respectively).

First Geneva Fashion Fair opens from 6 to 8 November 2009 -- an interesting networking opportunity for businesses.

Data on textiles and clothing can differ depending on the classification system used.

- SITC¹ classification treats leather garments as clothing, although not commonly understood as products of textile and clothing industry.
- HS² classification of textiles includes agricultural raw materials such as cotton, wool, silk, etc.
- Important therefore to exercise caution in interpreting aggregate data!

¹Standard International Trade Classification
²Harmonized Commodity Description and Coding System



their concerns and aspirations. That the decades-long quota restrictions came to an end as from the beginning of 2005 owed much to these countries' persistent advocacy backed by sound preparatory work through the ITCB. Also gone with the restrictions are quota-related costs, a host of procedural hassles for business, and unnecessary bureaucratic intervention. Waiting to materialise are significant reductions in tariff protection levels with the successful conclusion of the Doha Development Agenda, hopefully before much longer.

Doha will open up more possibilities for developing country exports and businesses. As also highlighted by WTO Director-General Pascal Lamy in his message, developing countries now account for two thirds of world exports of clothing and over half of global exports of textiles. With the expected abating of current recessionary conditions and the resumption of trade expansion, these opportunities are bound to grow and will call for sound policy and business strategies to harness the increased market potential.

This newsletter is intended to provide the critical ingredient - reliable, spot-on information - for this purpose, and to help keep abreast of the dynamics at play with trade in the sector. "Threads" will be regularly presented to provide you with news, views and analyses of developments in trade as well as trade regulation. We very much hope that our new initiative will be found useful by businesses, policy makers and other stakeholders alike as an informative platform for this important sector.

Martin Glass
Chairman, ITCB Council
Permanent Representative of Hong Kong, China to the WTO

Recessionary Conditions Drag Textiles Trade Down

A couple of months ago, the WTO forecast that "the collapse in global demand brought on by the biggest downturn in decades will drive exports down by roughly 9% in volume (i.e., real terms) in 2009, the biggest such contraction since the Second World War".

As if to prove the forecasters right, textile and clothing imports in the United States, by far the single largest import market for the sector, plunged by over 11% in terms of quantity and close to 13% in terms of dollar value in the period January-March 2009 compared to the same period last year. If the trend lasts through the remainder of the year, it will have shaved some \$11 billion worth of trade off the level in 2008 which itself was \$3 billion less than attained in 2007.

Unfortunately 2009 first quarter data for the European Union, the other big market, are not yet available. Going by the slackening of demand witnessed in the EU last year, however, it is quite likely that it may also experience a decline even if not as steep as in the United States.



We shall track and present the up-to-date 2009 numbers for both markets in the next issue of this newsletter. Meantime it is worthwhile to present the highlights of these two markets' imports on the basis of available data.

The United States

United States' imports of textiles and clothing during 2006-2008 from top 30 and a number of other selected suppliers are provided in Appendix Table 1 (see page 9). Here is a quick-glance snapshot of overall results. Those interested in gaining a longer-term perspective can profit by a visit to the ITCB website.

Change over previous year/period

2007 2008 Q1 2009*

In volume terms:

Textiles and clothing combined	1.9%	-5.2%	-11.3%
Clothing	3.5%	-2.7%	-9.2%
Textiles	0.6%	-7.1%	-13.0%

In dollar terms:

Textiles and clothing combined	3.4%	-3.3%	-12.7%
Clothing	3.2%	-3.2%	-10.5%
Textiles	3.9%	-3.9%	-19.6%

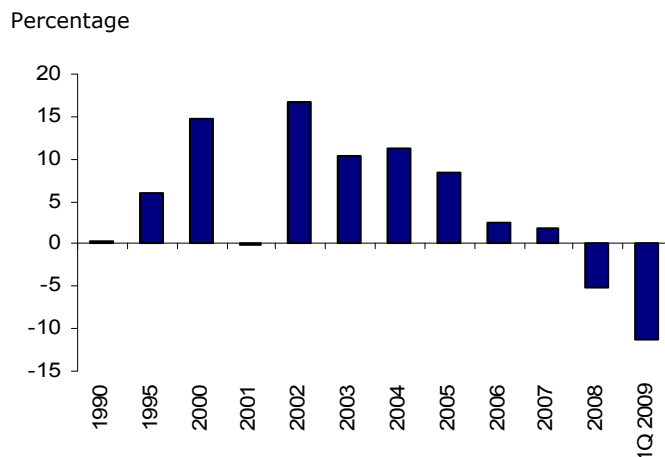
* January-March, 2009 compared to January-March, 2008

The acceleration of contraction in US import demand that started with the onset of ongoing financial and economic crisis is obvious from the numbers above. Indeed, the current contraction is much deeper than during previous periods of recession (see Charts 1 and 2, opposite column). Notice how much worse is the current decline in United States' imports of textiles and clothing compared to the recessionary cycles in 1990 and 2001.

Highlights of individual suppliers' performance on US market

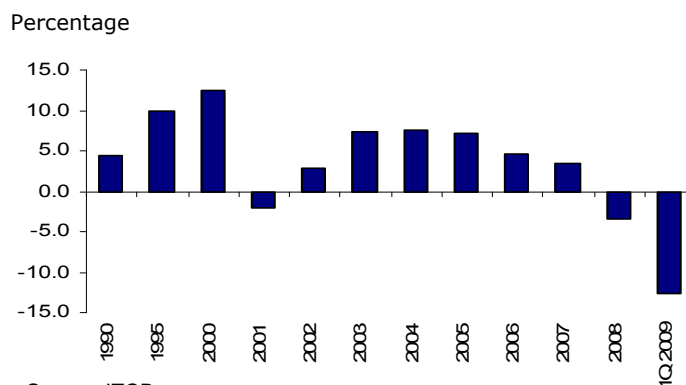
Seen from individual supplying countries' perspective, however, some have not only managed to defy the odds but continue to perform well. Top of the list from amongst the major suppliers are Vietnam and Bangladesh. Both are among only the four that maintained positive rates of growth in the first quarter of 2009. They logged first quarter increases (in dollar terms) as follows: Bangladesh plus 13.3%; Vietnam plus 6.6%; Egypt plus 10.7% and Haiti plus 35.9%. These increases for the first three are all the more remarkable, given that they had made handsome advances in the last two years, also.

Chart 1 US imports of textiles and clothing, percentage change over previous year/period; volume terms



Source: ITCB

Chart 2 US imports of textiles and clothing, percentage change over previous year/period; US dollar terms



Source: ITCB

Other major suppliers suffered varying percentages of decline, the list including China, India, Mexico, Indonesia, Pakistan, Honduras and others.

In 2008, too, of the major suppliers only a handful registered positive performances (see Appendix Table 1 page 9). Noticeably, Bangladesh continued to confound the doomsayers by logging a double digit increase of 10.8 percent in value. Vietnam and Egypt also registered impressive gains of 19% and 5% respectively. The other notable performances were by Honduras and El Salvador. Buoyed by the implementation of their free trade agreement with the United States (CAFTA), both continued to make up for the reverses suffered at the expiry of quota restrictions and increased the volumes of their shipments of textiles and clothing by 9.4% and 5.8% respectively (volume figures not shown in the Appendix Table).

China and Indonesia were also able to hold their own, managing to stay in the plus column. All other main suppliers saw their exports decline, however.

The European Union

Unlike the United States, data on European Union imports become available with a considerable lag. The following is therefore based on data up to 2008.

Mirroring the United States market, the EU market also experienced a contraction in textiles and clothing demand. Here is a quick-glance snapshot of this market.

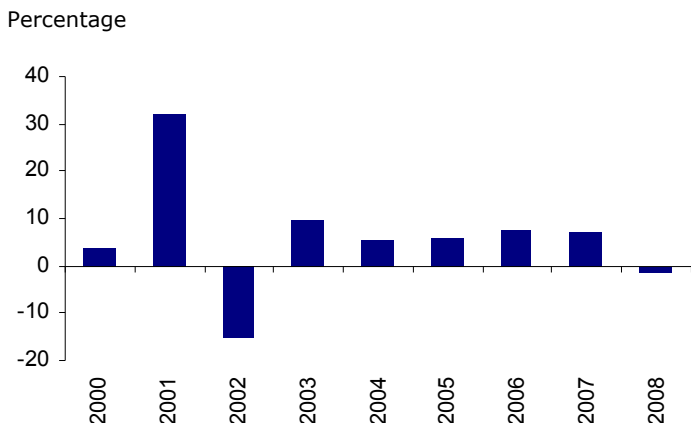
	Change over previous year			
	2007	2008	2007	2008
<u>In volume terms:</u>				
Textiles and clothing	7.2%	-1.3%		
Clothing	4.9%	2.8%		
Textiles	8.9%	-4.5%		

	<u>US dollar terms:</u>		<u>Euro terms:</u>	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
Textiles and clothing	14.3%	7.7%	4.7%	0.3%
Clothing	14.2%	9.7%	4.6%	2.2%
Textiles	14.7%	2.0%	5.1%	-5.1%

Product coverage: HS Section XI excluding agricultural raw materials; Source: ITCB, compilation from Eurostat data.

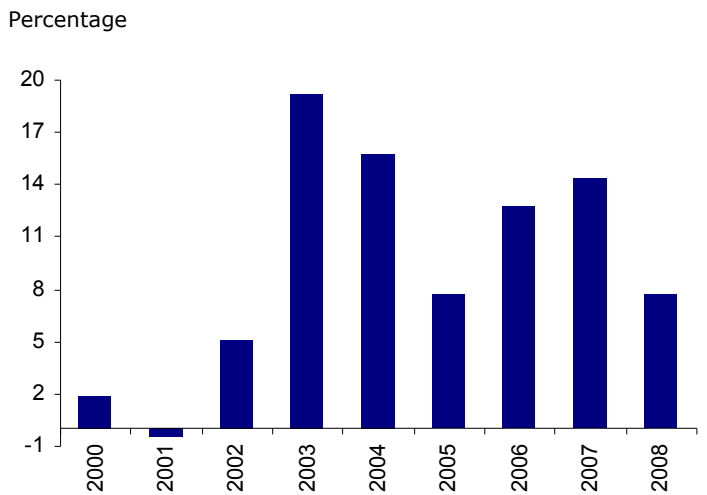
The higher increase in US dollar terms is attributable to the depreciation of US dollar vis-à-vis the Euro. In this context, it bears mentioning that although Euro is the currency for most major EU countries, it is not common to all its member states. Thus, for example, UK, the second largest importer of all EU member countries, is not a member of the Euro zone. Otherwise, also, for sake of comparability with non-EU countries, it is necessary to review the data in terms of US dollars. Seen in this light, EU imports did not do as poorly as the United States.

Chart 3 EU (27) Imports of Textiles and Clothing from Extra-EU, percentage change over previous year; volume terms



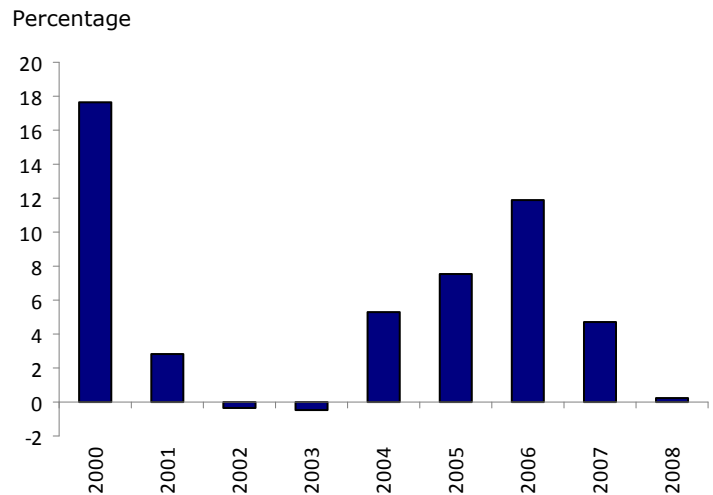
Source: ITCB

Chart 4 EU (27) Imports of Textiles and Clothing from Extra-EU, percentage change over previous year; US dollar terms



Source: ITCB

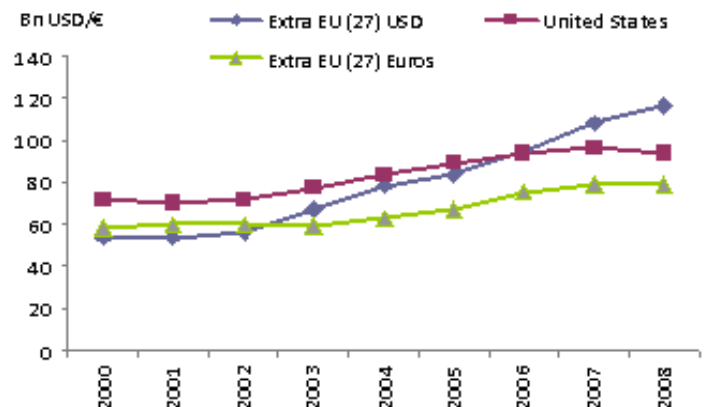
Chart 5 EU (27) imports of textiles and clothing from Extra-EU, percentage change over previous year; Euro terms



Source: ITCB

The graphical presentation in Chart 6 highlights the difference in the two markets' performance over the past several years (the EU in both dollar and Euro terms).

Chart 6 Progression of textiles and clothing imports



Source: ITCB

Highlights of individual suppliers' performance on EU market

As noted earlier, on the US market only a handful of supplying countries were able to maintain a positive growth trend in 2008. On EU-27 market however the situation was much different, especially if measured in terms of US dollars. The table in the opposite column provides a summary overview. For country-by-country details on EU market see Appendix Table 2 at page 10.

Thus while only Bangladesh, Vietnam, Egypt, Honduras and El Salvador were able to increase their exports to the US, on the EU market several others also fared quite well (among them China, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Cambodia and others).

Percentage Change in EU(27) T&C Imports from Selected Suppliers

	Change 2007-08 EU(27) market		Change 2007-08 US market*
	Euro terms	US dollar terms	US dollar terms
World	0.3%	7.7%	-3.3%
Bangladesh	7.1%	15.0%	10.8%
Vietnam	7.5%	15.5%	19.0%
Egypt	4.1%	11.8%	5.0%
Honduras	34.2%	44.1%	3.7%
El Salvador	-7.7%	-0.9%	4.2%
China	12.9%	21.2%	1.1%
India	-1.8%	5.4%	-0.5%
Pakistan	-4.3%	2.7%	-2.9%
Indonesia	-8.3%	-1.5%	0.8%
Sri Lanka	7.1%	15.0%	-7.2%
Thailand	-5.0%	2.0%	-3.9%
Cambodia	4.5%	12.3%	-2.0%
Turkey	-11.3%	-4.8%	-18.8%

*The column only to show comparable performance on the US market

Buy American: WTO Rules Keep Textile Protectionism at Bay at Least for Now

When barely a week after President Obama's inauguration the United States House of Representatives passed its version of the so-called stimulus package including a "Buy American" provision relating to the use of American iron and steel in public construction projects under the package, it attracted widespread criticism. Worries of a descent into protectionism grabbed headlines. Little noticed however was the fact that the bill included a specific "Buy American" section with respect to textiles, too.

"Buy American" provisions - both with regard to iron and steel and textiles - finally passed and became law with the signing of \$787 billion stimulus package on February 17th, 2009.

Essence of the "Buy American" provisions

The one with respect to iron and steel

The crux of the main "Buy American" provision requires all iron, steel and manufactured goods used for construction, alteration, maintenance, or repair of public buildings and public works to be only those produced in the United States.

In the face of widespread criticism about the protectionist nature of this provision and fears about *tit for tat* actions

by other countries, the language in the final legislation was substantially amended with the addition of a subsection providing that this provision "shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements".

That with respect to textiles and clothing

In so far as textiles and clothing are concerned, the relevant provision requires that, in the procurement of clothing and other textile items, the Department of Homeland Security must not use funds made available to it unless these items are produced in the United States. The list of products includes:

- (A) Clothing and the materials and components thereof;
- (B) Tents, tarpaulins, covers, textile belts, bags, protective equipment, slip systems, load carrying equipment, textile marine equipment, parachutes, or bandages;
- (C) Cotton and other natural fiber products, woven silk or woven silk blends, spun silk yarn for cartridge cloth, synthetic fabric or coated synthetic fabric (including all textile fibers and yarns that are for use in such fabrics), canvas products, or wool; and



(D) Any item of individual equipment manufactured from or containing such fibres, yarns, fabrics, or materials.

As in the case of iron and steel, the provision relating to textiles also provides that it be applied “in a manner consistent with the United States obligations under international agreements”.

WTO compatibility of “Buy American” provisions

Neither of these provisions would therefore seem to run foul of United States’ WTO obligations because they pertain to procurement by government agencies for governmental purposes and paragraph 8(a) of GATT Article-III relating to National Treatment provides that: “The provisions of this Article shall not apply to laws, regulations or requirements governing the procurement by governmental agencies of products purchased for governmental purposes”

Under the Agreement on Government Procurement, however, the United States is obligated to extend the same treatment to those Members that are signatories to the Procurement agreement.¹ Here, too, both provisions of the legislation now provide that these “shall be applied in a manner consistent with United States obligations under international agreements”. In other words, the United States will extend national treatment to those signatories and therefore remain within its international obligations.

What does it mean for textiles and clothing?

In so far as textiles and clothing products are concerned the “Buy American” relates to purchases against funds made available to the Department of Homeland Security under the stimulus package. Among the components of this Department are such large uniformed organizations as Transport Security Administration, Customs and Border Protection, Immigration Service, Coast Guards, and Federal Emergency Management Agency.

When accepting the Agreement on Government Procurement, the United States excluded the Transportation Security Administration from the list of entities in respect of which it agreed to apply the Government Procurement Agreement; also the Coast Guards in the context of national security considerations.

In other words, in respect of these two organizations the United States is not obligated to extend national treatment even to members of the Government Procurement Agreement and can procure the covered textiles and clothing products domestically without violating its WTO obligations.

Finally, the United States accepted the obligations of Government Procurement Agreement only in cases of purchases exceeding SDRs 130,000 in respect of supplies and services and exceeding SDRs 5 million in respect of construction.

The practical effect of “Buy American” on textile imports

As a practical matter, it is hard to figure out as to how much money made available under the stimulus package might in fact be spent on purchases of specified textile and clothing items for those departments. The total amount involved would perhaps not be very large, especially when seen in the context of total amount of textile and clothing consumption in the United States or, even, in comparison to the amount of imports of products covered by the new legislation.

That said, there can be little denying that the intent behind these provisions is clearly protectionist inasmuch as they are designed to advantage the domestic industry’s products over imported products. That this protection-seeking effort will however produce relatively insignificant impact on overall textile and clothing trade owes largely to the fact that the sector is now firmly subject to multilateral rules and disciplines, keeping the worst protectionist pressures at bay.²

¹Only the following are parties to the Agreement on Government Procurement: Canada; European Union (with respect to all its 27 member states); Hong Kong, China; Iceland; Israel; Japan; Republic of Korea; Liechtenstein; Aruba (through the Netherlands); Norway; Singapore; Switzerland and the United States.

²In the next issue of this newsletter, we shall report on the state of anti-dumping actions and other trade restricting measures in the sector.

Proposed U.S. Duty-Free Access to Pakistan Much Less Than Meets the Eye

A bill titled Afghanistan-Pakistan Security and Prosperity Enhancement Act introduced by certain lawmakers in United States House of Representatives in March 2009 (H.R. 1318) proposes to extend duty-free access to imports from Afghanistan and certain designated areas of Pakistan. Seen by its sponsors as vital to achieving counterinsurgency policy goals of the United States, the proposed legislation aims “to stimulate economic activity and development in Afghanistan and the border region of Pakistan, critical fronts in the struggle against violent extremism”.

Look a bit deeper however and you find that except for carpets and rugs Afghanistan barely exists on the textiles scene and the promise of duty-free access for Pakistan is much less than meets the eye because the bulk of textile and clothing products, from a labour-intensive sector that can generate quick investment and employment, are excluded from the scope of duty-free treatment under the bill.

Past experience with such programmes

The United States has in the past implemented such duty-free programmes for a number of countries, most notable of these being the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI) for countries of the Caribbean Basin and Central America; the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act for Sub-Saharan African countries; the Andean Trade Promotion Act for some Andean countries (Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador); and, most recently, the Qualifying Industrial Zones (QIZs) schemes for Jordan and Egypt.

These programmes achieved varying degrees of success. The CBI produced a boom in exports of apparel from Central American countries and provided the springboard for a free-trade agreement between the United States and Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. More recently, Jordan's exports increased from a paltry \$50 million in 2000 to a substantial \$1.6 billion in 2006 - again consisting largely of apparel. Egypt has also logged a handsome increase in its exports, although not to the extent of CBI or Jordan's. AGOA countries' performance however remained somewhat lacklustre and erratic.

Can Pakistan also hope for a similar boom?

In principle Pakistan should also be able to achieve similar success given that it has a large textile industry, an

indigenous raw material base, and abundant unemployed labour. A closer look however reveals that, as it currently stands, the bill may not be able to produce the results achieved under the other preference programmes. The reasons:

Main economic provision of the bill

The bill proposes to provide tariff-free treatment for imports of eligible products from the whole of Afghanistan but only some designated areas of Pakistan through 30 September 2024, i.e., for a period of 15 years.

To be called 'Reconstruction Opportunity Zones' or ROZs, the regions of Pakistan from which ROZs may be designated are limited to areas adjoining Afghanistan and areas of Pakistani-administered Kashmir affected by the earthquake in 2005. Being remote from the main industrial centres of the country, these regions could take quite a while and effort before significant manufacturing capacity can come on stream.

The bill includes less than half of textile and clothing trade

In principle the bill is aimed at providing duty-free treatment for all exports from these areas.

The main advantage of a duty-free programme can be if it includes products on which tariff rates are sufficiently high such as clothing. The success of similar duty free programmes cited earlier also owed to exports of clothing. However, insofar as the ROZs in Pakistan are concerned, the proposed legislation includes only a limited list of these products that would be eligible for duty-free treatment. The list of excluded products includes shirts, trousers, underwear, sweaters, brassieres and certain fabrics which account for the bulk of United States' textile and clothing imports.

Textile products that are included do not all carry high tariff rates

It is well known that average U.S. import tariff on manufactured products is a paltry 3.3%. Within this average, however, the tariffs on some products are much higher. And these products are mainly in textile and clothing and leather sectors. Indeed the tariff rates on some clothing products are 20%, or even 32%.



In this context, it is also now well-documented that the cost of compliance with the procedures of United States' preference programmes can itself be 3-5%. Therefore, to be sufficiently attractive to U.S. importers to shift their orders away from existing suppliers, the margin of tariff advantage ought to be several points above 5%.

Textile and clothing items proposed to be eligible for duty-free access from Pakistani ROZs include several products such as carpets on which duty rate is already zero. Secondly, in a number of these products (towels, bedspreads, bed linen, etc.) Pakistan already holds import shares of 25-30%. And going by the principle that businesses do not like to put all their eggs in one basket, the possibility of substantial increase in export of these products would also appear to be limited.

In a nutshell, the table below sums it all:

	Amounts in US\$ million	
	Imports from world	Of which from Pakistan
United States' total T&C imports (2008)	89,000*	3,103
Products COVERED for duty-free for Pakistan		
With tariff rates up to 5%	4,185	321
With tariffs 5% -- 8%	10,053	594
With tariffs 8% -- 32%	24,241	830
Ensembles (mixed rates)	3	--
Total	38,282	1,746
Products NOT COVERED for duty-free for Pakistan		
With tariff rates up to 5%	1,214	5
With tariffs 5% -- 8%	2,945	102
With tariffs 8% -- 32%	46,559	1,250
Ensembles (mixed rates)	--	--
Total	50,718	1,357
Assuming scope for increase being in products that have tariff rates above 5%		
Proposed to be covered for duty-free for Pakistan	34,297	1,425
Proposed Not to be covered for duty-free for Pakistan	49,504	1,352
Percentage not covered	59%	49%

* Of products listed in the proposed legislation

Conclusion

Notably, firstly, the proposed bill promises the duty-free benefit for imports from only the remote, underdeveloped areas of Pakistan. Secondly, while it covers \$34 billion worth of current trade with tariff rates of 5% and higher it excludes trade worth \$50 billion. Hence the caption of this analysis: 'proposed U.S. duty-free access to Pakistan much less than meets the eye'.

threads

Newsletter from ITCB

Published by International Textiles and Clothing Bureau (ITCB)

ITCB's mission is to promote collaboration among developing countries and positive actions aimed at increasing their exports of textiles and clothing. In pursuit of this objective, it serves as a common platform to articulate their concerns and aspirations for improved access to markets and full regard for the principles and rules of the multilateral trading system.

This newsletter aims to provide reliable news, views and analysis for informed decision-making by businesses, policy makers and other stakeholders.

The opinions expressed in Threads do not necessarily reflect the views of the ITCB or of its members.

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Manuscripts offered for publication should be compatible with ITCB's mission.

ITCB reserves the right to decline publication of any particular contribution.

Material from Threads can be used in other publications with full citation.

Printed on paper certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) as made from wood pulp derived from sustainable forests.

Appendix Table 1
United States Textiles and Clothing Imports
Top-30 and other selected suppliers

Rank	Exporter	Amounts in million dollars			Percentage Change	
		2006	2007	2008	2006-07	2007-08
	World	93'279	96'410	93'187	3.4%	-3.3%
	Of which, top 30					
1	China	27'068	32'323	32'679	19.4%	1.1%
2	Vietnam	3'396	4'558	5'425	34.2%	19.0%
3	India	5'031	5'104	5'078	1.5%	-0.5%
4	Mexico	6'376	5'625	4'957	-11.8%	-11.9%
5	Indonesia	3'902	4'206	4'241	7.8%	0.8%
6	Bangladesh	2'998	3'191	3'537	6.4%	10.8%
7	Pakistan	3'250	3'170	3'078	-2.5%	-2.9%
8	Honduras	2'445	2'518	2'612	3.0%	3.7%
9	Cambodia	2'151	2'435	2'386	13.2%	-2.0%
10	Italy	2'068	2'233	2'039	8.0%	-8.7%
11	Thailand	2'124	2'059	1'979	-3.1%	-3.9%
12	Canada	2'587	2'202	1'652	-14.9%	-25.0%
13	Hong Kong, China	2'893	2'124	1'616	-26.6%	-23.9%
14	El Salvador	1'433	1'507	1'571	5.2%	4.2%
15	Sri Lanka	1'703	1'590	1'476	-6.6%	-7.2%
16	Philippines	2'085	1'794	1'426	-14.0%	-20.5%
17	Guatemala	1'678	1'463	1'399	-12.8%	-4.4%
18	Chinese Taipei	1'497	1'365	1'187	-8.8%	-13.0%
19	Korea Rep.	1'666	1'325	1'119	-20.5%	-15.5%
20	Jordan	1'254	1'146	974	-8.6%	-15.0%
21	Nicaragua	879	968	934	10.1%	-3.5%
22	Turkey	1'312	1'147	931	-12.6%	-18.8%
23	Egypt	806	870	914	7.9%	5.0%
24	Dominican Rep.	1'550	1'061	850	-31.6%	-19.9%
25	Macao, China	1'163	1'028	839	-11.6%	-18.4%
26	Peru	865	833	817	-3.7%	-1.9%
27	Malaysia	739	720	666	-2.6%	-7.5%
28	Japan	421	459	420	9.0%	-8.5%
29	Israel	483	411	418	-14.9%	1.7%
30	Haiti	450	452	412	0.6%	-8.8%
	Selected others					
	Colombia	551	428	378	-22.3%	-11.7%
	Lesotho	387	384	340	-0.9%	-11.4%
	Costa Rica	479	432	307	-10.0%	-28.8%
	Madagascar	238	290	279	21.5%	-3.6%
	Kenya	264	249	247	-5.6%	-0.9%
	Brazil	348	325	243	-6.5%	-25.1%
	Swaziland	135	135	125	0.0%	-7.7%
	Mauritius	119	115	102	-3.5%	-11.5%
	Morocco	102	91	90	-11.6%	-0.4%
	Tunisia	49	59	69	22.1%	15.9%
	Bulgaria	75	73	54	-2.7%	-26.1%
	South Africa	67	43	41	-35.0%	-5.8%
	Laos	8	11	30	38.2%	176.7%
	Botswana	29	31	16	9.8%	-49.8%
	Argentina	13	15	10	16.4%	-29.6%
	Uruguay	11	9	6	-20.4%	-28.6%
	Paraguay	1	1	0	-5.9%	-46.4%

Coverage: MFA products; ITCB compilation from US Department of Commerce data.

Appendix Table 2
European Union (27) Textiles and Clothing Imports
Top-30 and other selected suppliers

Rank	Exporter	Amounts in million dollars			Percentage Change	
		2006	2007	2008	2006-07	2007-08
	Extra EU (27)	94'617	108'172	116'462	14.3%	7.7%
	Of which, top 30					
1	China	29'827	37'420	45'351	25.5%	21.2%
2	Turkey	14'948	17'430	16'597	16.6%	-4.8%
3	India	7'559	8'531	8'993	12.9%	5.4%
4	Bangladesh	6'077	6'391	7'353	5.2%	15.0%
5	Tunisia	3'398	3'909	4'189	15.0%	7.2%
6	Morocco	3'112	3'651	3'708	17.3%	1.5%
7	Pakistan	2'885	3'360	3'452	16.4%	2.7%
8	Switzerland	1'851	2'180	2'237	17.8%	2.6%
9	Indonesia	2'322	2'266	2'232	-2.4%	-1.5%
10	Vietnam	1'449	1'773	2'048	22.4%	15.5%
11	United States	1'702	1'802	1'910	5.8%	6.0%
12	Sri Lanka	1'273	1'495	1'719	17.4%	15.0%
13	Thailand	1'481	1'518	1'548	2.5%	2.0%
14	Hong Kong, China	3'230	2'372	1'334	-26.5%	-43.8%
15	Korea Rep	1'388	1'449	1'203	4.4%	-17.0%
16	Egypt	859	1'010	1'130	17.6%	11.8%
17	Japan	749	847	912	13.2%	7.6%
18	Cambodia	696	725	814	4.3%	12.3%
19	Chinese Taipei	930	822	794	-11.7%	-3.4%
20	Macedonia	460	650	720	41.3%	10.8%
21	Croatia	554	608	637	9.7%	4.7%
22	Mauritius	622	675	637	8.4%	-5.6%
23	Ukraine	596	597	587	0.2%	-1.6%
24	Serbia	307	416	466	35.5%	11.9%
25	Israel	406	431	454	6.0%	5.4%
26	Malaysia	568	451	413	-20.6%	-8.6%
27	Madagascar	301	355	337	17.6%	-4.9%
28	Albania	159	226	284	42.4%	25.9%
29	Philippines	383	316	272	-17.5%	-13.9%
30	Moldova	212	257	268	21.4%	4.2%
	Selected others					
	U.A. Emirates	254	251	236	-0.9%	-6.0%
	Belarus	224	227	219	1.6%	-3.5%
	Myanmar	268	221	217	-17.5%	-1.8%
	Macao, China	477	385	203	-19.3%	-47.4%
	Norway	173	187	180	8.2%	-3.7%
	South Africa	197	196	171	-0.4%	-12.7%
	Canada	172	179	171	4.4%	-4.9%
	Laos	155	149	164	-4.4%	10.0%
	Brazil	204	181	155	-11.3%	-14.4%
	Mexico	122	131	130	7.2%	-0.8%
	Russia	227	167	113	-26.4%	-32.5%
	Argentina	75	81	77	7.8%	-5.0%
	Uruguay	80	78	76	-2.8%	-2.0%
	Honduras	37	40	58	7.5%	44.1%
	El Salvador	41	40	40	-1.5%	-0.9%
	Jordan	12	14	17	16.5%	20.9%
	Guatemala	8	7	15	-11.6%	107.3%
	DPR Korea	18	16	10	-15.7%	-38.9%
	Paraguay	3	3	3	31.1%	-20.8%

Product coverage: HS Section XI excl. agricultural raw materials like cotton, wool, silk, etc.; ITCB compilation from Eurostat data.